February 13th, 2013

Appropriations Committee Testimony Legislative Office Building, Room 2702 Hartford, CT 06106-1591

To whom it may concern;

I am writing in support of keeping the STRIVE program in the Department of Labor Budget. The STRIVE program has been a staple in the community for over twelve years, and statewide has served thousands of individuals. I personally work for the program in New Haven and can tell you that this has been one of these most positive jobs I have had. With over 30 years in the work force I think this has got to be the best place I have ever worked.

With an extremely lean budget, and a proven track record of success, it would be foolish to cut a program that yields such high results. I understand that many tough decisions need to be made, and I do not envy your position. With a low cost, high impact program such as STRIVE, I believe it would be extremely unwise to cut their funding. I strongly encourage you to fight to keep STRIVE in the budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me at the information below with any questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely,

Tony Evans 20 Benton St

New Haven, CT 06515

203-903-7582